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Sabotage Campaign In France

Four Derailments

Paris, Dec. 3.—The sabotage campaign sweeping across France today, and including the most numerous and serious series of railway accidents since the three-week-old strike wave began, threatened tonight to take on proportions of clandestine guerrilla warfare against the Government.

M. Robert Schuman's Cabinet has asked Parliament for special powers to deal with saboteurs, but the passing of the bill in question has been held up four days so far by Communist delaying tactics in the National Assembly.

General Charles de Gaulle arrived in Paris from his country home as Communist deputies in the strongly guarded National Assembly suggested that right-wing elements and the general's followers sponsored the sabotage so that the blame could be put on Communists.

The 80,000 further reservists to be called up under the Government's anti-strike measures will mainly be used to guard railways. Government spokesmen disclosed tonight. Sabotage on the railways has been accompanied by other acts of violence, including the seizure of public buildings, stations and factories by groups described as strikers.

DISGUISED CIVIL WAR

The authorities consider that the attempt to bring about a general strike has definitely failed, but it was expected that the struggle between the forces of the Government and the strikers and the Communist Party would continue in various forms for some days yet.

Le Monde, Independent Conservative newspaper, wrote tonight: "Twenty dead and 40 injured in the derailment of a train near Arras is the first price paid in a disguised civil war, the first symptoms of which are showing themselves more clearly every day."

"But everything points to the fact that we are witnessing the death agony of an offensive that has failed. Everywhere, resistance is hardening amongst the majority of the French people, who have little desire to see the country set its feet on the path of an adventure from which there would be no way out. Four derailments within 12 hours were blamed on sabotage, and sabotage was also the suspected cause of a derailment on the Calais-Dunkirk line this afternoon."

STRIKERS ARRESTED

The police arrested strikers in factories and railway stations for inciting others to stop work. Thirty were held in Marseilles and the suburb of St. Andre for resisting French troops clearing barricades thrown up last night.

Workers in the capital's flour mills resumed production after three weeks. A communique issued after the Cabinet meeting this afternoon said that the Government, in calculating family allowances, was thinking in (Continued on Page 4)

SAVAGE FIGHTING BETWEEN JEWS AND ARABS

Haganah C-in-C Killed

Jerusalem, Dec. 3.—Arabs and Jews fought a savage hours-long gun battle in the No Man's Land between Jaffa and Tel-Aviv today while British troops broke up with gunfire an Arab mob assault on the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem.

Ten men—seven Arabs and three Jews—were reported killed in the Jaffa-Tel-Aviv fighting and 32 seriously wounded, 24 of them Arabs and eight Jews.

This brought the unofficial toll of casualties in two days' disorder in the Palestine riots over the country's partition to 23 killed and 102 wounded. Hundreds more suffered minor injuries.

For the first time men of the three Jewish military organisations Haganah, Basbi and the future Jewish Army, and the extremist Irgun Zvai Leumi and Stern Gang—stood side by side to fight Arabs in the battle between Arab Jaffa and Jewish Tel-Aviv.

Moshe Neuman, Haganah Commander-in-Chief for the Tel-Aviv area, was among the Jews killed.

Fighting started at dusk yesterday (Tuesday). It continued intensifying throughout the night and this morning. At noon, the British authorities put a curfew on the borderline area. British troops moved into the area in force and started firing in answer to shots from either side. By 2 p.m. fighting had subsided into brisk sniping, which continued into the night.

At dusk, 24 hours after the fighting started, fires were still burning in No Man's Land and the vicinity. Firemen watched vainly from behind the fighting lines of both cities, unable to get to the burning buildings because of continued gunfire.

Rioting here was less intense of more serious than yesterday only because the British troops acted vigorously and promptly.—United Press

STRIKE APPEAL

Jerusalem, Dec. 3.—Sir Henry Gurney, Chief Secretary of the Palestine Government, had asked him this morning to call off the Arab general strike, (now in its second day), because it was endangering the security of Palestine, Dr. Husseini Khalidi, Secretary of the Arab Higher Committee, said today.

Dr. Khalidi, a former Mayor of Jerusalem, added that no decision on this question had yet been taken by the Higher Committee, which had met in Jerusalem today.

Dr. Khalidi told a press conference that he had informed Sir Henry that "irresponsible elements had taken matters into their own hands" during yesterday's inter-racial three-up.

Measures had been discussed with the Chief Secretary with a view to easing the situation, he said.

The Arabs were making no arrangements for a provisional government and no Arab Government would be set up "unless it was an Arab Government of all Palestine."—Reuter

COMMONS STATEMENT

London, Dec. 3.—The British Government is determined to "take steps to preserve order and prevent such tragic conflicts" in Palestine the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, stated in the House of Commons today when making a statement on the "sporadic and unorganised" Arab demonstrations which took place there yesterday.

The Palestine Government, he said, was responsible for the maintenance of law and order until the mandate was relinquished.

Mr. Creech Jones said that in Jerusalem there was mob violence directed against Jews and Jewish property. "Shots were fired by the Jews and possibly also by the Arabs, although the latter is not certain."

Answering a barrage of questions, Mr. Creech Jones said that he would make a statement on Palestine "at an early date". When asked how long British troops would be used to keep the peace between the Jews and the Arabs in view of the tension caused by the United Nations' decision on partition, Mr. Creech Jones said: "We hope the final withdrawal will be on August 1 next year."

Asked if the special constables, enlisted for the Palestine police force being equally withdrawn from Jewish and Arab areas, Mr. Creech Jones replied that some steps were being taken to augment the existing arrangements for the preservation of law and order, but this point would be covered in his forthcoming statement.

It would also cover the employment of the Transjordan Frontier Force.

The Colonial Secretary made no reply when asked what arrangements were being made to maintain law and order after British troops were withdrawn.—Reuter

Statement On Malayan Seamen

Canberra, Dec. 3.—The Immigration Minister in the House of Representatives here has detailed the circumstances in which the 14 Malayan seamen, who were awaiting repatriation, entered Australia.

He said the first deserted his ship in 1942 in Australian waters. Another refused to resign his ship's articles in 1943. A third was permitted to sign off his vessel, but he did not sign on again after his leave. Three of the Malaysians served with the American transport services and were signed off in 1940.

Among the others, some were brought here from Japan for repatriation. Pending their repatriation, seven were signed off vessels in Australia.

"Two were married in Singapore before coming to Australia. They are now living with their de facto Australian wives. I do not intend to make any further enquiries," the Minister said.

"What the Government is doing is in accord with the established practice in Australia and there is no intention of departing from that," he added.—Reuter

Coal Production

London, Dec. 3.—In the remaining five weeks to the end of the year, Britain's miners have to produce 19,325,500 tons of coal to reach the Government's target of 200,000,000 tons.

Working overtime last week miners produced 4,203,200 tons of coal.—Reuter

Russia May Try To Get Into Palestine

Danger Of Offering To Settle Dispute

Washington, Dec. 4.—American military observers considering possible future developments in connection with the UNO decision to partition Palestine, pointed to the danger that a "holy war" in the Holy Land may bring Red Army units into the country ostensibly to protect the new Jewish state against the Arabs.

Such a move would put Russian troops on the Mediterranean within flying minutes of the Suez Canal and within easy striking distance of American oil concessions in Saudi Arabia.

The possibility that Russia will offer to intervene is being freely discussed in Washington. A highly placed officer who could not be quoted by name said it "can be expected within days, if not tonight, to break out in Palestine. It will be very embarrassing for both the British and ourselves."

There is no joint UNO military force yet organised to maintain order anywhere in the world.

Britain has announced her intention to withdraw her army, estimated now at 80,000 men, from Palestine before next August.

The actual removal of British units probably will begin before that time so that it can be completed by the announced date.

POTENTIAL DANGER

France maintains a sizeable force, including some regiments of the Foreign Legion, in North Africa, but they are needed for the protection of Algeria and Tunisia.

Fighting in Palestine might set the whole Middle East aflame. The United States has no troops in that area. Some hope is expressed here that the Jews will be strong enough to protect themselves.

The little state numbers slightly more than 1,000,000 population. It is surrounded by more than 30,000,000 Arabs. However, none of the Arab nations has a trained army equipped with modern weapons.

The nearest approach to it is the British-trained Arab Legion in Transjordan, a state no longer larger than the new Jewish state.

Numerically inferior, the Jews, however, can put into the field at least one regular army unit and thousands of tough experienced guerrilla fighters. They have the Jewish brigade, trained and equipped by Britain which fought with recognised success in the last stages of the Italian campaign. Their irregulars, the majority of whom served in other European armies before the last war, have been the spearhead in the underground operations of the past two years.

But American observers believe that even a large scale guerrilla struggle between the Arabs and Jews would bring from Moscow, the offer to station Russian troops in Palestine.

"They might come in on a temporary basis," experts said, "and then you would never get them out."—Associated Press

High Treason Trial

Warsaw, Dec. 3.—The government, opening the trial of five men and two women accused of high treason and espionage, today charged that the United States and British Embassies in Warsaw had received information from the underground which sought to overthrow the Polish Government.

The group was accused of collecting economic, political and military information, for which they received large sums in American dollars from anti-government Polish circles in London.—Associated Press

WHALE OIL FOR EUROPE

Thousands Of Tons Earmarked

Tokyo, Dec. 3.—Approximately 7,200 tons of whale oil, more than half of the total tonnage of 12,000 tons procured by last year's Japanese Antarctic whaling expedition, have been earmarked by the International Emergency Food Council for export to European countries currently suffering from deficiencies of fats and cooking oils. Mr. C. M. Adams, Chief of the production section of the Fisheries Division of SCAP, announced today.

The first shipment of 900 tons leaves Tokyo Bay on Thursday morning aboard the ss Hermand. Its destination is Bremen, Germany, and the oil is consigned to the military government for distribution in the British and American occupation zones.

The total value of last year's whale oil production amounted to \$5,000,000, Mr. Adams reported. In accordance with instructions from the International Emergency Food Council, 5,000 tons were allocated to the Japanese and the remainder for export to Europe in nine shipments, Japan being credited with \$2,800,000 on the foreign trade account.

Fuel oil consumed on the last expedition cost \$800,000 so it can be assumed Japan made a net gain of approximately \$2,000,000.

It is anticipated the present whaling expedition en route to the Antarctic will return with more than 20,000 tons valued at \$7,000,000. This catch again will be offered for distribution to countries deficient in fats and oils.—United Press

Trapping The Reds

Washington, Dec. 3.—A hunt for methods of setting legal traps for Communists will get under way in Congress today. Representative Richard Nixon, Republican of California, said one possibility is compulsory registration of all Communists as agents of a foreign government.

Nixon predicted action at the regular session beginning in January on some kind of legislation to stem Communism in America. He is chairman of the House Un-American Activities Subcommittee called together today to begin looking for the right kind of legislation.—Associated Press

Orient Faces Prospect Of Food Shortage

Washington, Dec. 3.—The people of the Orient will get less to eat in the immediate future unless heavy food imports are made available to them, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation predicted.

"A serious deterioration in the food situation (in the Orient) can be prevented only by very heavy imports," FAO said in a world food survey based on mid-November information. "It appears total food production of the Far East may be about the same as last year, but the growth of population will result in lower per capita production."

Here is the way FAO saw the food situation in various Oriental nations: "China's wheat crop is likely to be above last year and its rice crop about two per cent increased."

Detention Cells At Central Are Filthy And Overcrowded

Last week, Telegraph reporter Harriet Harvey visited the detention cells at the Central Police Station. What she saw and learnt there is described below.

The detention cells at Central Police Station were built sometime before the Twentieth Century (records of the exact date were destroyed) and have not been substantially altered or rehabilitated since that time.

Today, the cells, accommodating five times the number of prisoners they did pre-war, are filthy, suffocating and grossly overcrowded. The walls are grimy and the floors urine-soaked. Women with breast-fed babies are thrown into overstuffed cells with diseased adults. In every respect, the cells fall far below the minimum health standards required by law.

Located directly behind the Charge Room at Central Police Station, a block of eight small cells house all persons arrested on Hongkong Island before they appear in court. Although most prisoners remain in the cells less than 48 hours, all detainees are sent back to them (from the court-room) to await transportation, and often remain there for weeks.

Sanitation facilities consist of a wooden bucket often overflowing, which is placed in the corner of the cell. It is emptied once a day. There is no washing water.

Insecticide or DDT is sprayed neither in the cells nor on the individual prisoner. No attempt is made to de-louse the prisoners or to curb other disease-spreading vermin. The walls have not been repainted or cleaned for many years and they are covered with filth. The cell floors are swabbed once daily.

DARK AND DANK

Ventilation is poor. Half the cells receive air through only a partially covered barred door. Of the remaining four, three have no through ventilation, the window being placed on the same side as the door.

The cells are dark and in most cases receive no light except through the door. Once a day the prisoners are allowed to exercise in the cement courtyard at the centre of the cell block.

As laid down by the Health Ordinance, the average maximum capacity of each cell is four prisoners. Last week, however, 800 prisoners passed through the cells, an average of 10 per cell per day, four times the maximum number established by law.

Overcrowding is being alleviated partially by the recent acquisition of two juvenile cells (one male and one female) and one European cell in Victoria Remand Prison. These have been acquired to take care of the overflow. However, when I inspected the cells last week, no effort was being made to equalise the distribution between the overcrowded cell block and the Victoria cells. The additional female juvenile cell was not in use at all, although the female juvenile cell in the cell block was overcrowded.

OVERCROWDING

At 6 o'clock Wednesday morning, the roster for eight block cells and the additional cells was as follows:

Cell No.		Maximum Capacity No. of	
1	4	15	male juveniles
2	4	15	female juveniles
3	4	15	male juveniles
4	4	15	female juveniles
5	4	15	males
6	4	15	males
7	4	15	males
8	4	15	males
male and female additional cells		10	25
European cell		2	—

The European detention cell is dirty. Although it has been provided through ventilation, bucket latrines are used and no tap or bucket is available for washing. The sleeping accommodation consists of one double decker European style bed covered with dirty mattresses.

When the Hongkong Telegraph asked the Acting Commissioner of Police for permission to visit the cells, he said "You won't like them. They smell." He was right. They stink.

U.S. CLOSES ENIWETOK

"Security Reasons"

Lake Success, Dec. 3.—The United States Government notified the United Nations Security Council today that it had closed the Eniwetok atoll in the Marshall Islands for "security reasons" from December 1.

The Security Council was told that the United States intended to conduct experiments in nuclear fission on the atoll which is part of the former Japanese mandate now held by the United States under the United Nations Strategic Trust-ship agreement.

The United States Atomic Energy Commission announced in Washington on Monday that the construction of testing grounds for "routine experiments and tests of atomic weapons" had begun at Eniwetok, from which the 145 inhabitants would have to be permanently transferred.

The United States Government said today that entry to the closed area would be allowed only in accordance with the regulations which would be prescribed and the periodic inspections by the United Nations were suspended until further notice.

The United States would report to the United Nations on the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the territory, and all possible measures would be taken to ensure that the people were not endangered and were subject to the minimum inconvenience.—Reuter

Five Die In Crash

Amarillo, Texas, Dec. 3.—Five persons died in a two-engine plane crash near Goodlight, Texas, on Tuesday night, officials decided today.

They believed at first that there was a sixth person on board.—Associated Press

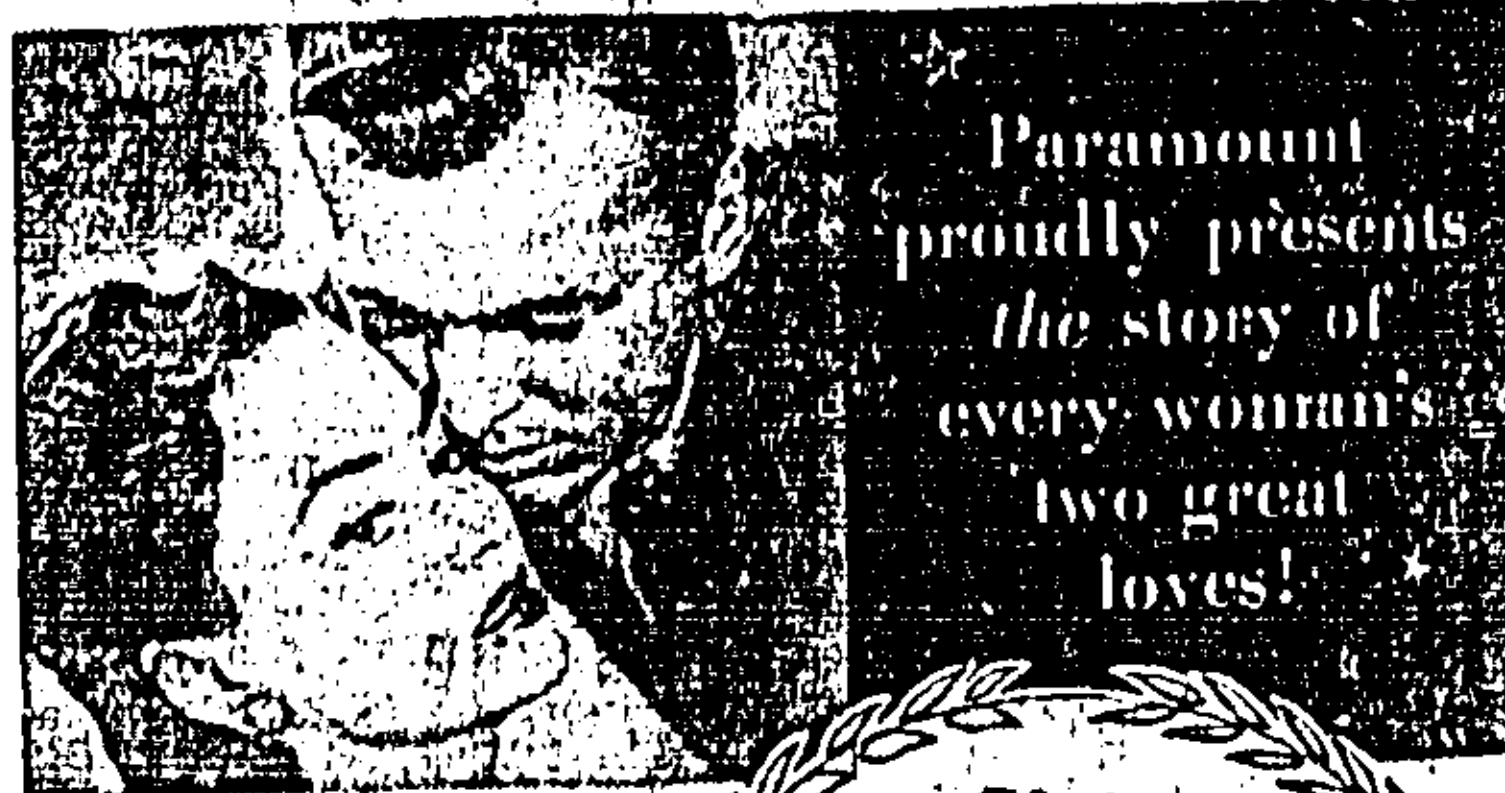
EDITORIAL

Put The Convicts To Work

AGITATING both legal and lay minds in Hongkong for some time has been the question of the best corrective punishment for the tenderfoot as well as hardened criminals who daily appear in the courts on charges varying from petty thieving to robbery with violence and armed hold-ups. A substantial body of opinion regards with favour a more liberal application of the corporal punishment, it being argued that for the majority, prison sentences merely provide an interlude during which offenders know they will obtain food and accommodation of a far more generous nature than they normally enjoy; and the experience leaves no impression of punishment on the mind. As things are today it is possible for the worst type of criminal to escape the sternest form of punishment, inasmuch that although he is sentenced to hard labour, this may never amount to anything more than developing a hobby such as wood carving, or learning how to make boots—described by one official as "just sitting around." To the man who has trained himself to a criminal career this form of punishment is just a marking of time until he can obtain his release and return again to his depredations. It may, in few cases, have the desired effect of conversion from

crime to honesty of living, but with adult Chinese criminals this must be regarded as a rare effect of prison life in Hongkong. The point is driven home by a study of the vast number of offenders who appear before magistrates and the criminal sentences with long records of evil-doing for which they have served several sentences. The great need appears to be to find work for these case-hardened criminals which properly comes within the description of hard labour. Occasionally some prisoners are put to work under the PWD, but seemingly there is insufficient scope in this direction to keep all of the men occupied. What is required is a gigantic operation which could not only absorb all of the hard labour inmates at Stanley, but would have the added advantage of being a useful development scheme. The use of prison labour for preparing Hongkong's new airfield is one suggestion. Assuming the Deep Bay area is selected for the aerodrome, a considerable saving of public funds could result from putting convicts to work on reclaiming and clearing the site. It would not only be hard labour, but constructive, and likely to prove a more effective form of punishment than just allowing the men to sit around.

SHOWING TO-DAY **KINGS** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.



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A "TO TAI" PROVISION STORE which is affiliated to the Company will also be opened for business at the same place commencing Dec. 1, 1947.



"I wonder if you would consider taking just a little piece of advice?"

LETTER FROM PARIS

British Visitors Are Missed

BY SAM WHITE

PARIS has been experiencing a record invasion from Britain, which reached its peak just before Mr Attlee's corrugated iron curtain rattled down with a dismal bang.

When the shutdown came on October 1 the last of the £36-ers formed an army which jammed hotels, night clubs and restaurants to capacity.

They spilled over from the better-known hotels to modest pensions on the left bank, which haven't seen a British tourist since those far-off days before the war.

Restaurateurs and night club proprietors, sensing a last opportunity, didn't even bother to dangle the catch, but drew the line up in a series of sharp, ruthless price jerks which left the customers floundering and breathless at their feet within a few days.

'More ships' cry

FRENCH tourism is now making plans to offset the loss in British tourists by a substantial increase in the American trade.

There is talk of the solitary French ship on the transatlantic run—the De Grasse—being supplemented by the Liberté and the Ile de France by next season, and the fervent hopes are expressed that the Americans will make corresponding increases in their shipping services.

But even dismissing the possibility of doddsides aires—to which French ship seem peculiarly liable—there is plenty in the way of political confusion and mounting prices to wreck these hopes.

In any case, Britain's action in imposing the ban on travel for pleasure has, for the time being, put Continental tourism back in the pre-Thomas Cook age, and the future would seem to belong to some ingenious but within-the-law Max Intrator.

Hem-line, latest

BEING, as it were, stationed in the front line of the "Battle of the Hem-line" I feel impelled to make a brief report on the state of the battle from this side of the barricades.

To me it looks like a rout of the short-skirters with the forces of the Marshal Christian Dior sweeping to victory against a crumbling and weekly-held citadel.

Hem-lines are dropping like a tropical rain storm all over Paris, and shop girls and typists are lengthening their skirts and tightening their waistlines in a slightly pathetic effort to keep up with the fashion.

Popular big stars like the Printemps now show only the longer skirt in their windows.

'Fifth column'

AS for the Parisian "smart set," the new fashion is already de rigueur, and a powerful "fifth column" of internationally famous New York and London women are to be seen wearing the long skirts in Paris.

The brains of the Paris fashion industry reason this way: If a handful of women who are famous for their smartness adopt the fashion, women everywhere will follow them; and if poorly paid Paris office girls can do it, so can women throughout the world.

In no profession in the world is there more backbiting and jealousy than among Parisian couturiers, and many a formerly famous couturier has secretly hoped that the new silhouette would flop.

Now, almost without exception, they are trying to climb on the bandwagon driven by Messieurs Christian Dior, Jacques Fath and Pierre Balmain.

Dying is cheapest

PARIS is now in the grip of the meanest, cruellest, stupidest food famine it has suffered since the liberation.

While prices rise daily milk, butter, cheese and meat have almost disappeared from the market in an artificial shortage created by black marketeers.

The butter ration has remained unaltered for two months and butter now sells at nearly 25s. a lb., while its price outside Paris is only about 15s.

Milk, too, has disappeared off the ration, and now sells at about three times the official price. Same with cheese.

The legal price of meat has now been fixed at what was only a few weeks ago the black market price.

Recently the official bureau of statistics revealed the doleful fact that it is now cheaper to die in France than to do almost anything else. For while food prices have risen by 900 per cent over pre-war levels, funeral charges have increased by a mere 280 per cent.

NOTHING is ever so unexpected as what occurs. What novelist would have invented the plot of a Chancellor, towering in his pride of place, being struck down by one unhappy conversation?

Or who in the ups and downs of politics would have predicted the soaring rise of Cripps above his incredible indiscretions?

Make a sneering reference to Buckingham Palace!

Tell workers in an ordnance factory that if there is a war (as indeed there is a few years later) they should down tools because it will be mere capitalist exploitation!

Advocate a Popular Front with Communists!

Get yourself slung out of your party!

What story-teller outside the "Arabian Nights" would lay down these as the sure and steady steps to attain orthodox domination, to be regarded as the hope of the side and the oracle of righteousness?

Fronti Nulla Fides is the Cripps family motto. I suppose you might interpret that as "Don't go by appearances," or "Never believe what you see," or even as "Truth is stranger than fiction."

Today Sir Stafford steps right to the top. His appointment as Minister of Economic Affairs some weeks ago started arguments on where he stood among the first five of the Socialist hierarchy.

In his own clean-cut style he settled the matter by saying, "The Chancellor (Dalton) bats first." Now Dalton is out—hit-wicket. And Cripps in future bats first.

At the moment he overshadows everyone else in the Government. It may be partly because he has aroused expectations rather than satisfied them so far. But in him alone we occasionally hear the authentic note of leadership which Mr Attlee makes no claim to strike. So there you have the great enigma of the day in human personality.

Transition

THERE must be some simple explanation of this transition from party bad lad and wild boy to sober leader. The simplest I can think of is that Cripps has learned a lot.

The vast convulsion of the war taught him modesty, humility, and self-restraint. The crisis of the times gives

him the conviction that he has a great function to perform. And to that he dedicates himself.

His Socialism was a breach of his family Tory history. Two views are possible, one that he was genuinely moved by a desire to help the underdog. It is by no means a rare quality in the landed gentry, although it has more often taken the form of Tory revolutionary than of Socialist.

Ambition

THE other is the cynical observation that he was always an astute lawyer and an ambitious politician and that he chose for the time being at least, the winning side.

by WILLIAM BARKLEY

I would think it almost improper to mention such a little thing if I had not once in Bristol during his election fallen in with a bright girl cousin of Cripps.

"Canvassing for Sir Stafford?" I inquired with a wealth of scorn and vigour she assured me that she was on the rounds doing all she could for his National Government opponent.

Another mystery of Sir Stafford's power is that he has no organised body of support.

A bevy of rather ineffectual intellectuals are attracted by his clarity and forcefulness. But they would represent at a party conference only one of the voting cards with a miserable thousand behind it compared to the marshalled millions of the "organised workers."

Faith

WHERE, then, is his party strength?

1 The miners love him. They remember how the astonishingly successful barrister waived all tempting briefs aside and acted unpaid as their counsel in the inquiry into the Gresford disaster.

2 The religious element in the Socialist Party worships to the only leading party figure who mentions the name of Christ in Parliament.

While the Socialist Party may be regarded in one way as materialist it has great depths in spiritual inspiration. It stemmed out of the old Liberal non-conformity and methodics. Although Cripps is C. of E. he will preach in a Baptist pulpit.

3 He rallies the followers who are in search of a leader. His success in this respect is a simple tribute to the strength of his individuality. It recognises that he has not been in recent years among the false prophets promising an easy paradise once Tory domination was removed.

He drives his staff hard but they like him for it. He cases off in the evening and professes to have no evening engagements.

The circular quality about him comes partly from his inexpressive features, his sharp, vigorous utterance. Partly, too, from the experience which waited him away during the war until he returned as an almost legendary figure.

He was Ambassador in Moscow, and while many people discount his personal success he returned on the clouds of glory of Russia's entry into the war.

His mission to India failed but he so obviously wore himself to the bone in his exertions that his reputation could scarcely have profited more if he had succeeded.

No. Just the reverse. I remember a most striking verification of the statement that there is a rugged quality in the man.

It was the conference in Blackpool which was to mean the end of the Churchill Government. The Socialists were in the mood of a fighting minority party—all but Cripps.

Speakers like Aneurin Bevan—most eloquent of men—warned their comrades with demagogic power. Destroy the Tory Party, cried Bevan. Leave not one Tory M.P. in Parliament.

Warning

IN a mood of fervour Cripps was called to speak. It was a great occasion, his first public performance since his readmission to the party which had expelled him seven years earlier. He stepped purposefully to the rostrum. The audience settled in their seats.

Almost as soon as he had begun he had finished. He spoke no more than half a dozen sentences. His message was that if they meant to win the election they must work on their programme. His warning that they had no plans then ready was the coldest douche I have ever heard administered.

He advanced amid rapturous shouts. He retired in silence. Most Socialists now see how right he was.

So this rare and unusual figure gets and deserves in his later years the reputation for consistency. He says today we must have a plan of importing tea, exporting more, and denying ourselves, lest worse befall us.

He is succeeding in diverting the emphasis of Government propaganda from the implied threat of "Work or Want" to the recognition that if we work now we may never want.

His clash of personalities with Dalton was that the late Chancellor was buoyant, optimistic probably over-confident.

Cripps will take no risk with emotions. He sees a stern task for the country if we are to be independent of American charity. He knows that it will be a hard job to pull us up by our own bootstraps. Nobody doubts that he will impose greater hardships and austerities.

These he imposes on himself. He disciplines his body. It is not merely a matter of living mostly on raw vegetables and fruits. He finds that necessary for his stomach's sake.

He does not offend Mr Gaiskell by taking frequent hot baths. The bath he takes just once a day is cold and reputedly taken at 7.30 a.m. after he has already put in several hours of work.

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His mission to India failed but he so obviously wore himself to the bone in his exertions that his reputation could scarcely have profited more if he had succeeded.

Understanding

THESE experiences may have taught him that preconceived theories rarely fit the scheme of events. One sees a more pliant understanding in him as when he did not hesitate just when steel nationalisation was convulsing the Cabinet, to come out and praise management and workers alike for the achievements today of that free enterprise industry.

His recent speeches have said nothing of party. He is conceivable as a Coalition Prime Minister. He may give us sharp medicine, as Walter Raleigh called the axe which chopped his head. But no doubt the Doctor's successor will seek to cure and not entirely to kill.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

Little Bo-Pest

Dad-dy, if we need more food, why are shop-keepers let-ting veg-etables rot?

Be-cause pea-ple won't pay nine-pence for a let-tuce.

Well, why not sell the let-tuce cheap-er?

That would mean on-ly a-bout 900 per cent. pro-fit for the middle-man.

Does he grow the stuff?

No. Go to bed boy.

Maison Richelieu

THE felt and lineolium are giving I out. Hats are growing almost invisible. Even the alliest ladies are protesting. "It was fun while it lasted," said Foulencough as he prepared to close the establishment.

Nothing to do with me

A SMALL rabbit bit a judge's thumb at a country show the

other day, and "kicked a steward." The steward probably ventured too near those hind legs. Maude By A Singing Mouse will be the next headline.

In passing

IF the object of polls is to prove that compulsory education has resulted in almost universal ignorance, that object has been achieved.

But, stay! There is one question which will always be answered with enthusiasm and a wealth of knowledge: "Is Betty Grable still as popular as she was a year ago?"

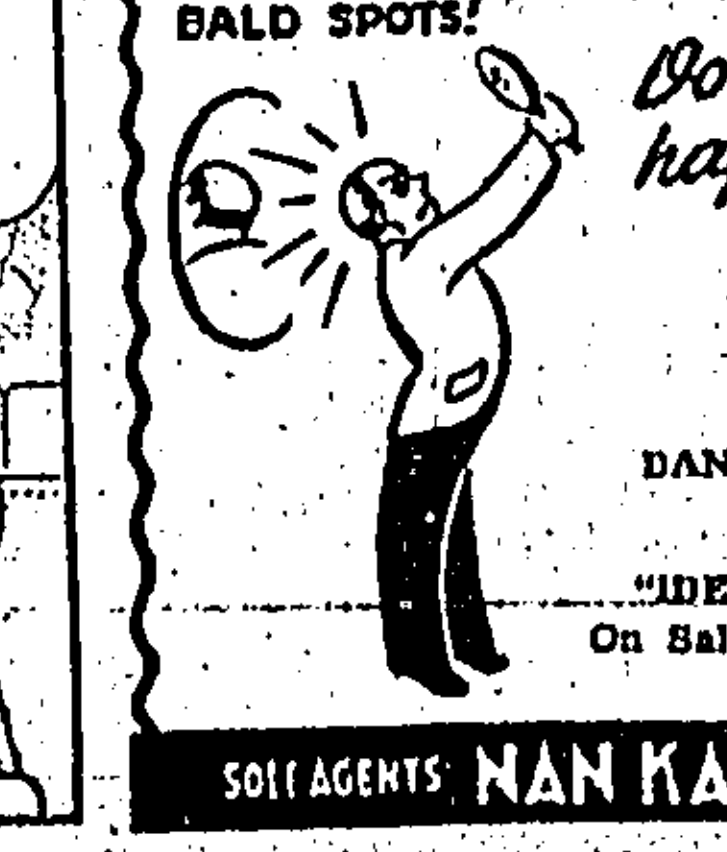
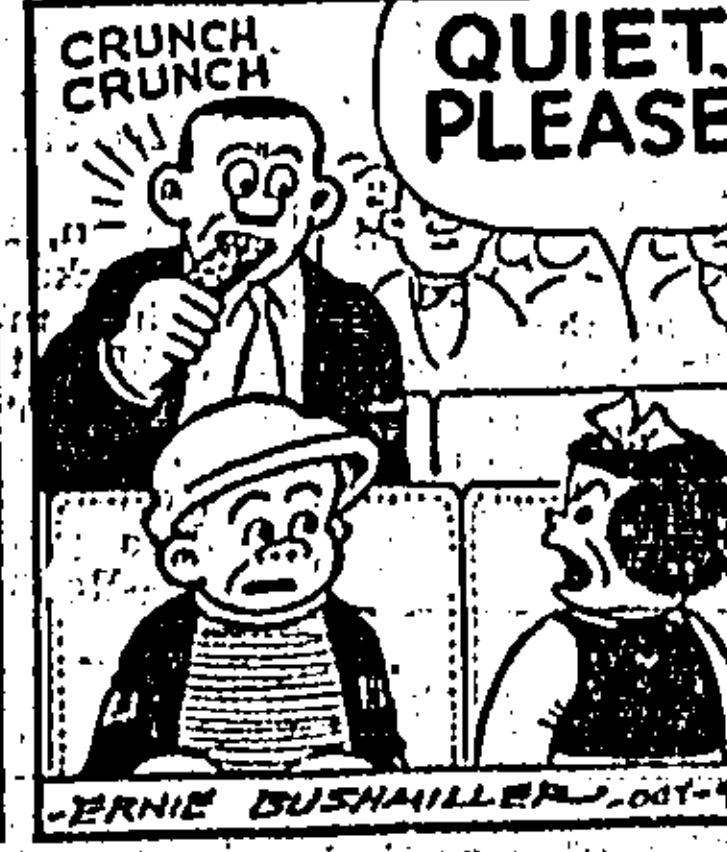
Eels harnessed to traction engine

Woman Stops Bolting Racehorse.

(Headline.)

"Eat more slowly," vouchsafed the waiter.

NANCY The Idea !!!



WANTS AID TO CHINA TO STOP RED MARCH

Washington, Dec. 3.—Congressman Walter H. Judd, Congressional proponent of aid to China, today warned radio listeners that the entire Far East lay in the path of spreading Soviet influence which would increase should the United States fail to act promptly in helping China "with military, moral and economic assistance."

However, Mr. Harold Isaacs, author of "No Peace for Asia," who spoke from New York in a radio debate on the question "Should We Extend Additional Aid to China?" opposed aid, saying: "The Nationalist Government has been so corroded, so corrupt, so incapable of facing up to the needs of the people that it can scarcely stand on its feet, much less defeat the Communist threat."

Isaacs said the problem in China was "not a problem primarily of guns and dollars."

"It is a problem of deep social crisis. The Communists are tools of Russia in that they are to win peasant support by promising a better peasants' lot and by appearing at least to do a little about it."

Continuing his attack on the Chiang Government, Isaacs stated: "The United States has spent over two years to bolster it up, but of two and one-half billions it spent in this effort, at least three-quarters went down the drain of corruption. More money would go the same way. If the only way Americans have to resist totalitarianism in China is to prop up Chiang Kai-shek's Government, then the battle is already largely lost, and brand new starting points will have to be found."

Representative Judd challenged Isaacs to supply a breakdown of the US\$2,500,000,000 figure, which Isaacs was unable to do.

Mr. Judd proceeded with a table, showing that considerably less had been extended.

Grave Consequences

Mr. Judd outlined the five "grave consequences" should China collapse for lack of aid:

"Firstly, it would bring the enormous resources and manpower of China under the control of a ruthlessly efficient and totalitarian Communist Government subservient to the Soviet Union."

"Secondly, it would greatly accelerate the already rapid spread of Soviet influence in Korea, South-east Asia, India and the Philippines."

"Thirdly, it would make impossible the restoration to Japan and Korea of anything approaching their pre-war pattern of trade with China, which is absolutely essential if they are ever to become self-sustaining and secure."

"Fourthly, it would mean the loss of hundreds of millions of American dollars every year and being devoted for an indefinite period by American soldiers."

"Fourthly, it would make it difficult, if not impossible, for certain European countries, especially England, France and Holland, to restore their pre-war pattern of trade with Asia, thereby endangering success of the Marshall Plan."

Danger Of War

"Finally, it would give Russia satellites and security along her Atlantic front, enable her to take far bolder and more aggressive action in Europe, relieve her of the necessity of fighting on two fronts in the event of war and thereby enormously increase the danger of such war."

Isaacs declared: "Pouring out new money will be a futile and costly feature."

He claimed that because the Chiang Government was hopelessly corrupt, aid "will achieve none of the official American purposes and certainly won't aid the Chinese people."

Judd declared that under the circumstances the Chiang Government had done remarkably well.

"In the first place, the Chinese Government is the one that overthrew the 297-year-old Manchu dynasty," he said.

An Accomplishment

Then, referring to the Democratic administration in Washington, he added: "Some of us Republicans are wondering whether we can overthrow a 16-year-old dynasty, so we know that is quite an accomplishment."

He then said China had to defeat parasitic warlords, free itself from foreign domination, fight off aggression from Japan, and fight off Communist encroachments.

"They are weak now," he summed up, "but I think you've got to concentrate on the remarkable accomplishments they made."

Isaacs differed, saying: "I don't think you can pass the litmus test of American military missions and American diplomatic missions as pure propaganda. I don't think you can dismiss a Marshall or even a Wedemeyer."

Chinese Reform

Both these United States leaders publicly called for Chinese government reform. Mr. Isaacs declared that the Chinese Government had been attacked by "virtually every American journalist, businessman and a good many diplomats."

Congressman Judd interrupted and went on to point out that the State of Georgia during the United States civil war, "after Sherman was down there about a year or two" was in a similar position.

"If you consider what China has been through, then it is not corrupt," he declared.—United Press.

Great Urgency

Washington, Dec. 3.—The House Foreign Affairs Committee said aid for China is "a matter of great urgency."

It said it is convinced "China is rapidly approaching the time when aid would be too late." China aid was not included in the emergency aid bill adopted by the Senate.—Associated Press.

Governor Urges Aid

Sacramento, Dec. 3.—Governor Earl Warren, most recently announced Republican Presidential aspirant, today endorsed the move by the House Foreign Relations Committee to include China among the countries to receive aid under the foreign relief bill being considered by Congress.

One of his first statements on foreign affairs, Senator Warren praised Senate passage yesterday of its version of the bill. He said, however, the inclusion of \$500,000,000 for aid to China in the House bill was a "perfectly logical thing to do."

The California Governor said aid to China should be helped, both on the grounds of "common humanity" and enlightened self-interest.

"We cannot have a healthy world with a lot of sick nations in it," he said. "Certainly there is as much need to relieve destitution and to stabilize the economy of China as there is to do the same thing in European countries. Certainly China is not only in the path of Communism but is suffering from Communist aggression."

Governor Warren made it clear, however, that he meant the United States should do something for the people in China and not for particular regimes. The Governor said he did not want to pass upon the morality or efficiency of other governments whether it be China, France or any other country.—United Press.

Soviet Armed Strength

Washington, Dec. 3.—The chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Representative Charles Eaton, pleading for speedy handling of the emergency foreign aid bill, said today that Russia was in a position to take over all Europe by force in 24 hours.

Representative Eaton made this statement before the House Rules Committee, which is considering his request to send to the House floor his Committee's US\$500,000,000 bill for relief in France, Italy, Austria and China.

Letters To The Editor

Dismayed Reader

Sir,—It was with dismay and great disgust that I read your editorial of this afternoon's Telegraph, and your papers of yesterday, with regard to the Authorities that be and the Chinese ship owners of Hongkong. It would have been wiser had you further further enquired before attacking the Harbour Authorities and your full support of Mr. Lloyd's contention that certificated Chief Engineers are available except for the fact that Chinese ship owners refuse to pay the Guild scale of wages, through the medium of your papers!

Your remarks in the editorial of this afternoon were rather outrageous and personal to the point that people in the know cannot help but voice their feelings contradicting your views, and Mr. Lloyd's. It is darn right unfair and unkind to stab people like the Harbour Authorities who know their business, and a lot more than what you or Mr. Lloyd can ever say, people who have always acted in all fairness to all parties concerned and, mind you, on good grounds and with authority.

Mr. Lloyd challenges that he has four certificated Chief Engineers available, that was up to yesterday. Anyone inquiring why, yes, well, one has just left the Colony, and one, oh, yes, one is in Macao. Eh, and two here in Hongkong! Yes, of which one perhaps is too old to shoulder the responsibilities of a Chief Engineer and the other, one of those who quite likely a character that has been in and out of recent jobs with his Certificate for some reason or other, means alcohol?

The Chinese ships' owners in Hongkong will pay a certificated Chief Engineer the Guild wages, and much more believe me, if and when they come across one from the Guild these days who are physically and/or morally fit for the strenuous duties of a responsible Chief Engineer. Perhaps Mr. Lloyd has four available up to yesterday, and whether anyone of them accepts a prospective offer or not, it has always been up to the individual and the ships' owners to contend, most definitely no ship owner will shoulder an irresponsible certificated Chief Engineer, would you?

You say such things about the Harbour Authorities and the Chinese Ship Owners, and you a newspaper Editor! The very thought of it! I would thank you to publish this in your correspondence columns of your next Hongkong Telegraph, as it is.

WHITE MAN FAIRPLAY.

[The correspondent will observe that the letter has been published—as it is.—ED. HICK]



'Are you the lady who offered a reward for the return of a dog answering the name of Queenie?'

Big Four Again Refer Treaty Procedure To Their Deputies

London, Dec. 3.—Mr. Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary, today associated Britain with the United States view on the problem of compensation for Allied nationals' property in Austria when the Council of Foreign Ministers discussed the Austrian treaty.

This change in the British attitude meets serious Austrian anxiety that the bill Austria would have to pay would be crippling.

Mr. Bevin, by making this statement, has now indicated that Britain will agree that United Nations nationals shall be compensated for their property in Austria on a basis not less favourable than the terms to be paid to Austrian nationals in Austria and not at some higher rate.

M. Molotov withdrew a proposal for working out a basis for the German peace treaty that would have involved an immediate adjournment of the Council of Foreign Ministers for two months.

After achieving certain minor agreements on procedure for negotiating the German peace treaty, the Foreign Ministers referred the whole procedure document to their Deputies.

M. Molotov today offered the Council a proposal of the German peace treaty which would have meant the adjournment of the conference immediately for two months.

He withdrew his proposal after objection from Mr. Georges Bidault, who was in the chair.

'Might As Well Go Home'

Mr. Molotov's proposal was: "The Four Foreign Ministers shall decide to base the peace treaty with Germany on the decisions of the Yalta and Potsdam conferences, and the four governments shall submit to the Council of Foreign Ministers within two months proposals as to the basis for preparing the peace treaty with Germany."

M. Bidault replied that the Foreign Ministers' agenda already contained many items which would form

the basis for the preparation of the German peace treaty and that if they adopted the new Soviet proposal they "might as well go home at once."

After nursing on minor points of procedure, the Ministers referred the whole German treaty document on procedure to their deputies.

The Ministers began today's session with an examination of their Deputies' report on the Austria peace treaty.

The decision to refer the document outlining the German peace treaty procedure to the Deputies again was made by M. Molotov. The British and American ministers had no objection and although Mr. Bidault pressed for "expedient" to refer the document to the Deputies for a third time, Mr. Bevin commented: "The third time may be lucky."

Question Of Procedure

The question of procedure arose at today's meeting when the discussion opened on the part of the document which declared that the peace treaty negotiations should be based on the Potsdam and Yalta decisions. After the British, American and French Ministers had made no comment, M. Molotov said that he was surprised that the participants in the Yalta and Potsdam conferences showed so little interest.

Gen. Marshall expressed general support of the decisions taken at Yalta and Potsdam but said that the language of Yalta and Potsdam quite evidently means one thing to us and another to the Soviet Union," he said. "There seems to be no purpose in rehearsing these discussions but, rather, we should profit a little from experience of the tragic delays of the last few years and go ahead to solve these problems and eliminate our misunderstandings."

In discussion on the composition of the peace conference, the American and British Ministers again made statements supporting the participation of smaller Allies.

Mr. Bevin restated his view expressed yesterday that smaller Allies should have at least a voice in the peace conference.

M. Molotov reaffirmed the Russian position that only the Big Four should hold important positions in the peace treaty conference preparatory committee.

Small Allies' Right

Advocating the smaller Allies' "right to record their views by a vote," Gen. Marshall said that there were four groups of states to be considered.

He listed them as follows: 1. The Big Four powers; 2. Other Allies who were neighbours of Germany or who participated with their armed forces against Germany; 3. Other United Nations who declared war on Germany; and 4. Germany itself.

He said that the first group would make the preliminary and final drafts of the peace treaty. The second group would be present at the peace conference and in important sub-committees. The fourth group would be heard at the peace conference either through its government or representatives of the people.

He then asked: "What place is there for the third group? Even if these nations had not fought, they had made sacrifices and an economic contribution, and had taken risks on their futures. They attended the first conference at San Francisco, and surely even their enemy will be heard there should be allowed to have their views taken into consideration."

This was only "elemental decency and justice," he said.

He added, however, that he had no objection to the Russian proposal to send the whole matter back to the Deputies.—Reuter.

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Indonesia Cease Fire Conference Fails

Batavia, Dec. 3.—A last-minute attempt to speed agreement on the United Nations "cease fire" order in Java failed today, when the Dutch and Indonesian Republican Special Committees and the Security Council's "Good Offices" Commission met on board the United States Navy transport Renville in Batavia harbour.

In a communique issued to-night, the three-nation "Good Offices" Commission merely reported having heard further statements from the Special Committees.

Today's effort was to hasten the "cease fire" agreement, which the Dutch consider an essential preliminary to political talks, so as to clear the way for talks on a political settlement in Indonesia.

Discussions on such a political settlement, however, are to proceed irrespective of the success or otherwise of the "cease fire" negotiations, and are now expected to begin on Friday, after several delays.

Dr. Paul van Zoeland, of Belgium, a member of the Security Council Commission, is due to return to Indonesia in the middle of this month from Belgium, where he has been for the past 10 days.

Earlier today a Dutch statement stressed the importance of today's negotiations on board the Renville, adding that if no substantial progress were made it would be difficult to begin the political talks.—Reuter.

SABOTAGE IN FRANCE

(Continued from Page 1)

terms of possible increase of the basic monthly wage to 10,000 francs as from January 1.

Observers considered this as an indirect gesture to the Confederation General of Trade Unions, which has been asking for a minimum wage of 10,000 francs monthly. It was considered that this offer would also include civil servants, who threatened to strike tomorrow, failing satisfaction of their wage demands.

The police today used tear gas at Rennes, in Brittany, where some 50 demonstrators were injured, and at Grenoble, south-eastern France, where the police tried to clear demonstrators out of the post office.

Two floating fire tenders were moored in the Seine river, midway between the National Assembly building and the Foreign Office, not only as a precaution against fire, the police said, but for possible use of hoses against demonstrators.

Earlier today, a Cabinet meeting with President Vincent Auriol in the chair, approved a decree implementing the law for the defence of the Republic under which 80,000 further reservists are to be called up.

The Cabinet also considered the demands of civil servants for re-grading and wage increases. The civil servants executive had voted to take strike action to-morrow if their demands for increases were not met.

An official communique from the National Railway Administration said that so far 20 dead bodies had been recovered, while 40 injured had been sent to hospital as the result of derailments.

Meanwhile, the National Assembly, after a stormy all-night session's debate on the Government's anti-strike measures, adjourned at 11 a.m. (GMT) for an eight hours' respite.—Reuter.

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Shanghai, Canton, Swatow, Amoy and Foochow, 3.30 p.m.

They Answered the Call

Have You?

Send your donation to the

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